

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 6651, the Alaska Salmon Research Task Force Act, establishes a task force of fisheries scientists and Alaskan stakeholders to study, address, and prevent salmon fishery disasters in Alaska.

Led by the late dean of the House, our colleague and friend, Representative Don Young, this bill is a perfect example of how he fought for what is best for Alaska.

Salmon are a vital part of the Alaskan way of life. Their cultural, economic, nutritional, and recreational impact cannot be overstated. But, over the past decade, there have been several fishery disasters that have put those very salmon at risk.

These financial, ecological, and cultural strains have created an increasingly dire situation for the Alaskan communities that rely on salmon, especially Native Alaskan communities.

This bill creates the Alaska Salmon Research Task Force, a group of members from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, and Alaskan stakeholders, to ensure that Alaskans are at the forefront of the Alaskan salmon research efforts taking place in their backyards.

I believe the bill is a fitting tribute to our departed friend. It elevates Alaskan voices, especially Native Alaskans, and it brings stakeholders together to build consensus and find a practical solution to this pressing issue in our 49th State.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation to safeguard Alaskan salmon fisheries for generations to come.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BENTZ. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6651, the Alaska Salmon Research Task Force Act, sponsored by our late colleague, the dean of the House, Representative Don Young of Alaska.

The day before his passing, Congressman Don Young was in our Natural Resources Committee room discussing the need for this legislation.

Since 2018 alone, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has issued 14 fisheries disasters determinations in Alaska. This bill seeks scientific answers and recommendations to solve these declining salmon runs.

Specifically, the bill would require the Secretary of Commerce, in consultation with the Governor of Alaska, to create an Alaska Salmon Research Task Force composed of up to 19 individuals representing various sectors of the salmon economy and culture.

The intent of the task force is to create a coordinated salmon research

strategy, and support collaboration and coordination in salmon conservation efforts. The task force must also produce a report and recommendations within 1 year of convening.

If Mr. Young were here today, I am certain that he would remind us that salmon are important to Alaskans due to their cultural, economic, and recreational value. I urge my colleagues to honor the late dean of the House by supporting this bill.

Madam Speaker, I urge adoption of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I urge support of the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6651.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AMERICAN FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 497) to establish the American Fisheries Advisory Committee to assist in the awarding of fisheries research and development grants, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 497

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "American Fisheries Advisory Committee Act".

SEC. 2. AMERICAN FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Section 2 of the Act of August 11, 1939 (15 U.S.C. 713c-3), is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (f); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (d) the following:

“(e) AMERICAN FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—

“(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

“(A) COMMITTEE.—The term ‘Committee’ means the American Fisheries Advisory Committee established under paragraph (2).

“(B) FISHING COMMUNITY.—The term ‘fishing community’ means harvesters, marketers, growers, processors, recreational fishermen, charter fishermen, and persons providing them with goods and services.

“(C) MARKETING AND PROMOTION.—The term ‘marketing and promotion’ means an activity aimed at encouraging the consumption of seafood or expanding or maintaining commercial markets for seafood.

“(D) PROCESSOR.—The term ‘processor’ means any person in the business of preparing or packaging seafood (including seafood of the processor’s own harvesting) for sale.

“(E) SEAFOOD.—The term ‘seafood’ means farm-raised and wild-caught fish, shellfish,

or marine algae harvested in the United States or by a United States flagged vessel for human consumption.

“(2) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of the American Fisheries Advisory Committee Act, the Secretary shall establish 6 regions within the American Fisheries Advisory Committee as follows:

“(A) Region 1 shall consist of Alaska, Hawaii, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Territories of Guam and American Samoa.

“(B) Region 2 shall consist of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut.

“(C) Region 3 shall consist of Texas, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida, Arkansas, Puerto Rico, and the Territory of the Virgin Islands of the United States.

“(D) Region 4 shall consist of California, Washington, Oregon, and Idaho.

“(E) Region 5 shall consist of New Jersey, New York, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia.

“(F) Region 6 shall consist of Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Pennsylvania.

“(3) MEMBERSHIP.—The Committee shall be composed of the following members:

“(A) REGIONAL REPRESENTATION.—Each of the regions listed in subparagraphs (A) through (F) of paragraph (2) shall be represented on the Committee by 3 members—

“(i) who are appointed by the Secretary;

“(ii) who reside in a State or territory in the region that the member will represent;

“(iii) of which—

“(I) one shall have experience as a seafood harvester or processor;

“(II) one shall have experience as recreational or commercial fisher or have experience growing seafood; and

“(III) one shall be an individual who represents the fisheries science community or the relevant Regional Fishery Management Council; and

“(iv) that are selected so that the members of the Committee have experience or expertise with as many seafood species as practicable.

“(B) AT-LARGE MEMBERS.—The Secretary shall appoint to the Committee at-large members as follows:

“(i) One individual with experience in food distribution, marketing, retail, or food service.

“(ii) One individual with experience in the recreational fishing industry supply chain, such as fishermen, manufacturers, retailers, and distributors.

“(iii) One individual with experience in the commercial fishing industry supply chain, such as fishermen, manufacturers, retailers, and distributors.

“(iv) One individual who is an employee of the National Marine Fisheries Service with expertise in fisheries research.

“(C) BALANCED REPRESENTATION.—In selecting the members described in subparagraphs (A) and (B), the Secretary shall seek to maximize on the Committee, to the extent practicable, a balanced representation of expertise in United States fisheries, seafood production, and science.

“(4) MEMBER TERMS.—The term for a member of the Committee shall be 3 years, except that the Secretary shall designate staggered terms for the members initially appointed to the Committee.

“(5) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Committee shall be responsible for—

“(A) identifying needs of the fishing community that may be addressed by a project funded with a grant under subsection (c);

“(B) developing the request for proposals for such grants;

“(C) reviewing applications for such grants; and

“(D) selecting applications for approval under subsection (c)(2)(B).

“(6) CHAIR.—The Committee shall elect a chair by a majority of those voting, if a quorum is present.

“(7) QUORUM.—A simple majority of members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum, but a lesser number may hold hearings.

“(8) MEETINGS.—

“(A) FREQUENCY.—The Committee shall meet not more than 2 times each year.

“(B) LOCATION.—The meetings of the Committee shall rotate between the geographic regions described under paragraph (2).

“(C) MINIMIZING COSTS.—The Committee shall seek to minimize the operational costs associated with meetings, hearings, or other business of the Committee, including through the use of video or teleconference.

“(9) DESIGNATION OF STAFF MEMBER.—The Secretary shall designate a staff member to coordinate the activities of the Committee and to assist with administrative and other functions as requested by the Committee.

“(10) PER DIEM AND EXPENSES AND FUNDING.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—A member of the Committee shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed in accordance with section 5703 of title 5, United States Code, for reasonable travel costs and expenses incurred in performing duties as a member of the Committee.

“(B) FUNDING.—The costs of reimbursements under subparagraph (A) and the other costs associated with the Committee shall be paid from funds made available to carry out this section (which may include funds described in subsection (f)(1)(B)), except that no funds allocated for grants under subsection (f)(1)(A) shall be expended for any purpose under this subsection.

“(11) CONFLICT OF INTEREST.—The conflict of interest and recusal provisions set out in section 302(j) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1852(j)) shall apply to any decision by the Committee and to all members of the Committee as if each member of the Committee is an affected individual within the meaning of such section 302(j), except that in addition to the disclosure requirements of section 302(j)(2)(C) of such Act (16 U.S.C. 1852(j)(2)(C)), each member of the Committee shall disclose any financial interest or relationship in an organization or with an individual that is applying for a grant under subsection (c) held by the member of the Committee, including an interest as an officer, director, trustee, partner, employee, contractor, agent, or other representative.

“(12) TECHNICAL REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Prior to review of an application for a grant under subsection (c) by the Committee, the Secretary shall obtain an independent written technical evaluation from 3 or more appropriate Federal, private, or public sector experts (such as industry, academia, or governmental experts) who—

“(i) have subject matter expertise to determine the technical merit of the proposal in the application;

“(ii) shall independently evaluate each such proposal; and

“(iii) shall certify that the expert does not have a conflict of interest concerning the application that the expert is reviewing.

“(B) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the American Fisheries Advisory Committee Act, the Secretary shall issue guidance related to carrying out the technical evaluations under subparagraph (A). Such guidance shall include criteria for the elimination by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administra-

tion of applications that fail to meet a minimum level of technical merit as determined by the review described in subparagraph (A).”.

(b) ROLE IN APPROVAL OF GRANTS.—Section 2(c)(3) of the Act of August 11, 1939 (15 U.S.C. 713c-3(c)(3)), is amended to read as follows:

“(3)(A) No application for a grant under this subsection may be approved unless the Secretary—

“(i) is satisfied that the applicant has the requisite technical and financial capability to carry out the project; and

“(ii) based on the recommendations of the American Fisheries Advisory Committee established in subsection (e), evaluates the proposed project as to—

“(I) soundness of design;

“(II) the possibilities of securing productive results;

“(III) minimization of duplication with other fisheries research and development projects;

“(IV) the organization and management of the project;

“(V) methods proposed for monitoring and evaluating the success or failure of the project; and

“(VI) such other criteria as the Secretary may require.

“(B) If the Secretary fails to provide funds to a grant selected by the American Fisheries Advisory Committee, the Secretary shall provide a written document to the Committee justifying the decision.”.

SEC. 3. EXPANSION OF SPECIFIED PURPOSES OF FISHERIES RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS GRANTS PROGRAM TO INCLUDE FISHERIES RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.

Section 2(c)(1) of the Act of August 11, 1939 (15 U.S.C. 713c-3(c)(1)), is amended by inserting “fisheries science, recreational fishing,” before “harvesting.”.

SEC. 4. PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF GRANTS PROPOSALS.

Section 2(c) of the Act of August 11, 1939 (15 U.S.C. 713c-3(c)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(6) Any person awarded a grant under this subsection shall make publicly available a title and abstract of the project to be carried out by the grant funds that serves as the public justification for funding the project that includes a statement describing how the project serves to enhance United States fisheries, including harvesting, processing, marketing, and associated infrastructures, if applicable.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BENTZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the matter under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 497, the American Fisheries Advisory Committee Act, led by Sen-

ator SULLIVAN and the late Representative Don Young.

This legislation establishes a committee to manage awards for fisheries research and development grants. This important funding, provided under a grant program at NOAA, helps maintain sustainable, competitive fisheries and working waterfronts.

The fishery advisory committee would be comprised of representatives from the different coastal regions of the United States and would include members of the seafood harvesting and processing industries. This structure ensures that research and funding decisions are informed by those who work and live in each region.

The inclusion of seafood harvesters and processors, recreational and commercial fishers and growers, and members of the fishery science community as representatives for each region will promote equitable, sustainable, and science-based fisheries management, ensuring longevity and productivity of this vital industry.

I urge support of the legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BENTZ. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of S. 497, the American Fisheries Advisory Committee Act, introduced by Senator DAN SULLIVAN of Alaska.

This legislation is simple: It directs the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to reestablish an American Fisheries Advisory Committee for the purpose of selecting grant projects that meet the research needs and priorities of the commercial fishing industry.

This committee will include a board of experts, with members chosen regionally and across all sectors of the fishing industry, and will help provide significant input on how research grants will be focused on fishing communities.

One goal of this bill is to keep fishing communities healthy and viable through local collaboration. I urge my colleagues to support this bill, which was introduced in the House our late colleague, Representative Don Young, and commend Representative YOUNG and Senator SULLIVAN for their efforts.

Madam Speaker, I urge adoption of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I have the same response as the gentleman, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 497.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

DON YOUNG ALASKA NATIVE HEALTH CARE LAND TRANSFERS ACT OF 2022

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 441) to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Tanana Tribal Council located in Tanana, Alaska, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 441

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Don Young Alaska Native Health Care Land Transfers Act of 2022”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

For the purposes of this Act:

(1) **CONSORTIA.**—The term “Consortia” means the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium and Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium.

(2) **COUNCIL.**—The term “Council” means the Tanana Tribal Council located in Tanana, Alaska.

(3) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

SEC. 3. CONVEYANCES OF PROPERTY.

(a) **CONVEYANCE OF PROPERTY TO THE TANANA TRIBAL COUNCIL.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—As soon as practicable, but not later than 180 days, after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall convey to the Council all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the property described in paragraph (2) for use in connection with health and social services programs.

(2) **PROPERTY DESCRIBED.**—The property referred to in paragraph (1), including all land, improvements, and appurtenances, described in this paragraph is the property included in U.S. Survey No. 5958 in the village of Tanana, Alaska, within surveyed lot 12, T. 4 N., R. 22 W., Fairbanks Meridian, Alaska, containing approximately 11.25 acres.

(b) **CONVEYANCE OF PROPERTY TO THE SOUTHEAST ALASKA REGIONAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—As soon as practicable, but not later than 2 years, after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall convey to the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium located in Sitka, Alaska, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the property described in paragraph (2) for use in connection with health and social services programs.

(2) **PROPERTY DESCRIBED.**—The property referred to in paragraph (1), including all land and appurtenances, described in this paragraph is the property included in U.S. Survey 1496, lots 4 and 7, partially surveyed T. 55 S., R. 63 E., Copper River Meridian, containing approximately 10.87 acres in Sitka, Alaska.

(c) **CONVEYANCE OF PROPERTY TO THE ALASKA NATIVE TRIBAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—As soon as practicable, but not later than 1 year, after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall convey to the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium located in Anchorage, Alaska, all right, title, and interest of the

United States in and to the property described in paragraph (2) for use in connection with health programs.

(2) **PROPERTY DESCRIBED.**—The property referred to in paragraph (1), including all land, improvements, and appurtenances, is the following:

(A) Lot 1A in Block 31A, East Addition, Anchorage Townsite, United States Survey No. 408, Plat No. 96-117, recorded on November 22, 1996, in the Anchorage Recording District.

(B) Block 32C, East Addition, Anchorage Townsite, United States Survey No. 408, Plat No. 96-118, recorded on November 22, 1996, in the Anchorage Recording District.

SEC. 4. CONDITIONS OF THE CONVEYANCE OF THE PROPERTIES.

(a) **CONDITIONS.**—The conveyance of the properties under section 3—

(1) shall be made by warranty deed; and

(2) shall not—

(A) require any consideration from the Consortia or the Council for the property;

(B) impose any obligation, term, or condition on the Consortia or the Council regarding the property; or

(C) allow for any reversionary interest of the United States in the property.

(b) **EFFECT ON ANY QUITCLAIM DEED.**—The conveyance by the Secretary of title by warranty deed under subsection (a)(1) shall, on the effective date of the conveyance, supersede and render of no future effect any quitclaim deed to the properties described in section 3 executed by the Secretary and the Consortia or the Council.

SEC. 5. ENVIRONMENTAL LIABILITY.

(a) **LIABILITY.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, neither the Consortia nor the Council shall be liable for any soil, surface water, groundwater, or other contamination resulting from the disposal, release, or presence of any environmental contamination on any portion of the property described in section 3 that occurred on or before the date on which the Consortia or the Council controlled, occupied, and used the properties.

(2) **ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINATION.**—An environmental contamination described in paragraph (1) includes any oil or petroleum products, hazardous substances, hazardous materials, hazardous waste, pollutants, toxic substances, solid waste, or any other environmental contamination or hazard as defined in any Federal or State of Alaska law.

(b) **EASEMENT.**—The Secretary shall be accorded any easement or access to the property conveyed under this Act as may be reasonably necessary to satisfy any retained obligation or liability of the Secretary.

(c) **NOTICE OF HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE ACTIVITY AND WARRANTY.**—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall comply with section 120(h) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9620(h)).

(d) **LIMITATION ON APPLICABILITY.**—The provisions in this section apply only to the property conveyances specifically required by this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BENTZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their re-

marks and include extraneous material on the matter under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 441, the Don Young Alaska Native Health Care Land Transfers Act of 2022, serves as a testament to the legacy of advocacy that the late dean of the House and our friend, Don Young of Alaska, provided Alaska Natives.

This particular legislation was something that he was urging—as recently as right before his passing, before we all left—upon me to move as quickly as possible, and I am glad that we have been able to get it to this point.

This legislation directs the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to convey certain parcels of land to the Tanana Tribal Council, the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium, and the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium for the purpose of expanding social and healthcare services.

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Together, these three nonprofit entities support the Alaska Native communities as Tribal health and social service providers in both urban and rural settings.

The Tanana Tribal Council, located in Tanana, Alaska, provides outpatient services to Alaska Natives. Since the council is rurally located, healthcare services are often underfunded and harder to come by.

This legislation's conveyance of approximately 11.25 acres of land to the council will allow it to build a new facility and expand existing services to its Indian Health Service beneficiaries, thereby increasing the quality of care available.

The Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium delivers care to Alaska Natives as one of the oldest and largest Native-run healthcare organizations in the United States. The consortium operates the Mt. Edgecumbe Hospital, a 25-bed critical access facility located in Sitka, Alaska, which is in serious need of renovation due to its age and current condition.

This legislation's conveyance of roughly 10.87 acres of land to the consortium will facilitate the planned modernization of the hospital by granting the consortium title to the acreage.

The Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium serves the healthcare needs of thousands of Alaska Native and American Indian patients in south-central Alaska. The consortium provides medical services at the Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage, Alaska, and provides wellness programs, disease research and prevention, rural provider trainings, as well as water and sanitation systems construction.